

TESTIMONIES—FJC CAGAYAN DE ORO

"I really praise the Lord for providng all my needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Before I joined the cellgroup here in CDO, I struggled in the area of finances. My husband is a "trisikad" (padjak) driver and meeting our daily needs had always been an issue with his meager income. God is good because He led me to study and learn the technique of massage/reflexology and gave me clients for home service. I learned to obey God in the area of giving my tithes/offerings through our cellgroup and Sunday service. Now, the Lord gave me not only acquaintances but public figures here as regular customers for home service and it helped a lot in our finances. Glory to God!" Sis. Nenita Ramas

"I am a victim of domestic violence and abuse from my foster family. The experience brought me shame and anguish and deep pain but I held on to God believing He is the restorer of my life, especially my teen age life. Praise God that I felt His love and care through a family belonging to FJC church here in CDO who adopted me after my ordeal. I also felt sincere acceptance from the whole FJC Spiritual Family where I attend now, which I longed to experience from a real natural family. I needed to continue the ongoing legal battle for this and it's not easy but praise God that He carries me through so I don't feel all alone. He is my strength!" Sis. Jovelyn

"I thank the Lord for transforming me after I joined the cellgroup here. I used to be a "busy body" and a tale-bearer in our community before, so much so that I got involved in most of the troubles in our barangay zone. Thank God, He made me lose my appetite in the sin of the tongue like slander, rumor mongering, backbiting, intrigues and the likes. Amazingly, I don't want to go near people talking bad about others or listening to them anymore. He has delivered me from this sin and weakness. Glory to Him!" Vernie Maga

"I have been asking the Lord to hear my petitions regarding the "road right of way" in my dwelling place. It was a long- standing request until finally, I joined the prayer and fasting here. The Lord honored my faith and my intimacy with Him. Now, the road is granted to us and made our place very convenient to reach. I also thank God that He gives me strength every Sunday to reach the 3rd floor of the

building where our church here is situated. I always ask the Holy Spirit to bring me up considering that I am now 83 years old and there is no elevator here. Thank God that He enables me to still attend the service regularly."

Sis. Nieves Camaru

"I was contemplating on ending my life a year ago when I got involved with a guy who left me for another girl. We lived together in the same house outside of marriage for some time and eventually had a child by him. When he left me, I felt so desperate and many times I tried to commit suicide, but everytime I planned it, somebody would be coming over to visit me at the house so that I could not go on with the plan. One day, somebody called me up to ask if I am interested to work in a household. I decided to go for it to divert my attention. This was in August of 2010. Praise God, my employer is a member of FJC and a cellgroup leader so I was encouraged to join her cellgroup here in CDO. Then I understood and realized how God really loves me to preserve me from destruction. I then joined the Alpha course which started October last year and I graduated this January. The Lord has the best plan for my life and I love HIM so much! I also learned to forgive my ex-boyfriend. Glory to God!"

Sis. Rosemarie Madria

"I want to glorify the Lord for what He has done in our FBMO here in Misamis Oriental. After the FBMO, I asked for some brief testimonies from the recipients and the FBMO Pastor, Ptr. Jess Baula stood first. He said that during the sharing of the Word, he got so convicted by the Lord with our vision as stated in Matthew 24:14 because he said he has gone cold in evangelizing. In the recent funeral wake of his grandchild in Davao, the opportunity was there to share Jesus to the guests according to him, but he deliberately dismissed the idea thinking that the bible could have no effect to those present, knowing their background. He said our FBMO sharings opened his eyes to evangelize again so he said he will go back as soon as possible to those people in Davao and share Jesus to them. Praise God! Also, he said that even during the FBMO, he texted his brother whom he could not forgive for a past family feud to reconcile with him as he got so convicted by God's Word that he heard that very moment. Hallelujah! What was amazing also was that he was not feeling well that day and thought of not attending the FBMO. He changed his mind and attended. Praise God for His wonderful work of transformation!" Pastor Vicky

MATTHEW 24:14

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."

20 March 2011

Sunday

THE SIN OF PRIDE *

(HATE EVIL, HATE SIN SERIES)

Excerpts from the Preaching of the Word of God

By Asst. Pastor Chit Hiteroza

March 13, 2011

1. Pride was the first sin committed. It was the sin of Lucifer. It was also the root of the original sin committed by Adam and Eve. Pride is the greatest of sins because it is the summit of self-love and is directly opposed to submission to God.
2. What is Pride? PRIDE is excessive belief in one's own abilities that interferes with the individual's recognition of the grace of God. It has been called the sin from which all others arise. Pride is also known as VANITY.
3. God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5. The problem with PRIDE is that we see it in others but often times we don't see it in ourselves. Romans 2:21. Let us ask the Lord to reveal to us the sin of pride in our lives. There are three (3) forms of pride that may be present in us: Pride of Moral Self-righteousness, Pride of Achievement, and Pride of an Independent Spirit.
4. Pride of Moral Self-righteousness. Anyone who believes that he holds the moral high ground in areas such as Christianity, Politics, Economics, Environmental Policies, Family etc.
 - a. In terms of morals and religion, there is what we call Pharisaical Pride as illustrated in Luke 18:9 & 11. We exalt ourselves and condemn others.
 - b. Knowledge (Doctrinal Pride) puffs up. 1 Corinthians 8:1

* "Reference: Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges".

- c. How do we guard ourselves against self-righteous pride?
 1. Bear in mind that no one is naturally righteous. Everyone was born with sin. Psalm 51:5
 2. Ask and thank the Lord for the grace to overcome pride in our life.
 3. Identify with the sins of others. Ezra was a righteous man but when Israel sinned, He identified with the sins of his people and confessed these sins before the Lord as though they were His own. Ezra 7:10, 9:6
5. Pride of Achievement.
 - a. It is not wrong to desire and aim for success and achievement. The fruit of perseverance is success. 2 Timothy 2:15. Success comes from the Lord. 1 Samuel 2:7-8.
 - b. We must not be proud of our achievements because everything that we have comes from God. 1 Corinthians 4:7
 - c. Many of us desire recognition. Luke 17:10. Recognition also comes from God. Psalm 75:4
6. Pride of an Independent Spirit.
 - a. Some of the signs that we have an independent spirit are: we resist authorities and we are not teachable.
 - b. To guard against the pride of an independent spirit, have a desire to learn from:
 1. Scriptures. Know what the scripture says about pride and submission.
 2. Those who are mature in faith. Learn from the examples in their lives.
 3. Someone with our best interest at heart and speaks wisdom. Hebrews 13:7
7. How to deal with PRIDE:
 - a. Recognize the responsibility to deal with pride. Identify specific areas of pride in your life, confess your sins and receive your forgiveness (1John 1:9), pray and seek the attitude of humility through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. Memorize and apply scriptures. Hide God's word in our heart. Psalm 119:11
 - c. Involve an accountability partner or a "buddy" to remind, exhort and pray for you. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.

Discussion Questions:

1. Which among the three (3) forms of pride presented do you recognize in yourself? In what way?
2. What practical ways can you think of to guard yourself or overcome forms of pride in your life?
3. What attitude do you have towards authorities? How do you regard authorities in your life?

SEMINAR ON ISRAEL

Last March 12, 2011, we had the first Israel seminar in 2011 held in the Church of Cornerstone Christian Church in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan. There were 52 pastors from different Bulacan-based churches and 30 pastors, elders and workers from Cornerstone. While waiting for the other attendees, we taught them some Hebrew songs. The seminar started at 10 AM with the Praise and Worship led by Pastor Richard Nillo. We were so blessed and the presence of the Holy Spirit was felt in our midst. Then Pastor Lucie was introduced and she talked about "Israel, the Church and You". There was one pastor who testified about the new wisdom and knowledge revealed by the Lord through Pastor Lucie and the Word of God she shared about Israel. They now understand why we should bless and what we should pray for Israel. After lunch, the Free Bible Ministry was also shared with them. There were some pastors who were already recipients of our FBM but there were still many of them who just learned about our ministry. They immediately made their requests after giving them the policies and guidelines. The seminar ended at around 5 PM and the participants enjoyed snacks of pancit (offered by one of the attendees) and drinks before they left. Praise God for the Israel Ministry!

Feedback from Pastors and leaders during the seminar:

1. One of the Pastors of Cornerstone Christian Church shared that, he was so much blessed because, this was the first time he heard about the truth with regards to Israel... "This is an eye opening to us, alam ko pro Israel tayo, pero hindi ko alam kung bakit, ngayon nalaman ko kung ano ang papel ko bilang isang Kristiano sa bansang Israel." "Napayak ako sa pinakitang video kung papano kumilos ang Diyos sa buhay nang mga Jew. Ngayon ko lang naintindihan ang katotohanan hindi biro ang ginawa at ang pagtawag niya sa ating mga Hentil, tayo pala ang gagamitin niya para maisakatuparan ang kanyang pangako sa bansang pinili niya." He got the burden, on how he will pray for Israel. Sabi niya.. "Simula ngayon, alam ko na kung paano ko ipapanalangin ang Israel, pray for His people, and pray for the leaders of the United

Nations, who are the deciding factor."

2. Another leader in the Intercessory Ministry, got the burden to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, he said that from now on they will give priority and number one in their prayer list, and they are actually asking for the list of prayer points and other factors that they needed to pray.
3. Another leader shared that "she was so much blessed with the speaker (Ptra. Lucie Peralta) for her total devotion on Israel ministry, ang galing nyang magdeliber ng message especially the Word of God that she shared, which leads us to open our mind about the truth on God's love to His people..."
4. In behalf of Cornerstone Christian Church, we are very thankful for the gift of time that the Friends of Jesus Christ has shared with us and be a part of Israel Ministry. God richly bless you all.....

Free Bible Ministry Outreaches

Date	Place	Date	Place
CLTR A		CLTR C	
Mar 18	Masbate City (12)	Mar 19	Calinog, Iloilo
18-19	Balud, Masbate (9)	19	Duenas, Iloilo
18-19	Mandaon, Mas (3)	19	Tapaz, Capiz
18-19	Baleno/Milagros	20	Tangala, Kalibo
19	Mobo, Masbate	CLTR D	
19	Uson, Masbate	Mar 19	Pangasinan (5)
18-19	Cataingan, Mas (6)	20	La Union
CLTR B		20	Pangasinan (2)
Mar 26	Alicia, Isabela	20	Muntinlupa
26	Santiago, Isabela	CLTR E	
26-27	Narra, Palawan	Mar 20	Quirino—Diffun
26-27	Puerto Princesa	19-20	Pangasinan (5)
27	Cordon, Isabela	27	Laguna

Announcements:

- Alpha Course Session VIII—March 23, 2011
- Youth Fellowship— March 20, 2011
- 24 Hour Prayer and Fasting—March 25-26, 2011

